

3. 1. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:
- a blending container;
 - a blending location sized to receive the blending container;
 - a foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;
 - a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;
 - a pump operatively coupled to the foodstuffs supply line to introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container;
 - a single, self-contained, stand-alone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the foodstuffs supply line, the blending device, and the pump.

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2. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:

a blending container;

a blending location sized to receive the blending container;

a foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;

a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;

an ice supply to selectively and automatically introduce ice into the blending container upon request;

a water supply to selectively and automatically introduce water into the blending container upon request;

a single, self-contained, stand-alone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the foodstuffs supply line, the blending device, the ice supply, and the water supply.

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7. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:

a blending container;

a blending location sized to receive the blending container;

a foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;

a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;

a refrigeration system to maintain the foodstuffs supply line refrigerated;

a single, self-contained stand-alone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the foodstuffs supply line, the blending device, and the refrigeration system.

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41. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:

a blending container;

a blending location sized to receive the blending container;

a refrigerated foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the refrigerated foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;

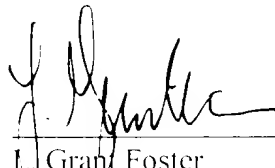
a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;

a single, self-contained, standalone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the refrigerated foodstuffs supply line, and the blending device.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

20 DECEMBER 2002



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:
 - a blending container;
 - a blending location sized to receive the blending container;
 - a foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;
 - a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;
 - a pump operatively coupled to the foodstuffs supply line to introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container;
 - a single, self-contained, stand-alone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the foodstuffs supply line, the blending device, and the pump.

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Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:

a blending container;

a blending location sized to receive the blending container;

a foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;

a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;

an ice supply to selectively and automatically introduce ice into the blending container upon request;

a water supply to selectively and automatically introduce water into the blending container upon request;

a single, self-contained, stand-alone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the foodstuffs supply line, the blending device, the ice supply, and the water supply.

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:
- a blending container;
 - a blending location sized to receive the blending container;
 - a foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;
 - a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;
 - a refrigeration system to maintain the foodstuffs supply line refrigerated;
 - a single, self-contained stand-alone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the foodstuffs supply line, the blending device, and the refrigeration system.

Claim 41 has been amended as follows:

41. (Amended) A blending station apparatus, comprising:

a blending container;

a blending location sized to receive the blending container;

a refrigerated foodstuffs supply line carrying a foodstuffs, the refrigerated foodstuffs supply line provided at the blending location to selectively and automatically introduce the foodstuffs into the blending container upon request;

a blending device mounted to the blending station apparatus at the blending location to blend the foodstuffs introduced into the blending container;

a single, self-contained, standalone preparation and processing station to incorporate the blending container, the blending location, the refrigerated foodstuffs supply line, and the blending device.